

Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered: let them also that hate Him flee before Him. Psalm 68:1

We have the guarantee of victory because of the price Jesus paid for us on the cross. However, the Bible tells us that the Lord trains our hands for war and our fingers for battle (Psalm 144:1) so there are strategies we need to employ for defeating the enemy effectively leaving no choice but to flee from us.

This series we will look at some of these strategies that will enable us to live out our mandate of being more than conquerors.

Day 1 Diligent Obedience

'...If you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God... The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face....' Deuteronomy 28:1,7

Obedience to God's word is a powerful strategy as one of the tactics the enemy uses to keep us defeated is disobedience. We can disobey either because obeying doesn't appear to make sense to us, or we honestly just don't want to. Let's look at 5 things that God does for us when we walk in obedience.

'For nothing is secret that will not be revealed, nor anything hidden that will not be known and come to light.' Luke 8:17

The enemy's actions aren't always obvious, but as we obey His instructions, the Holy Spirit begins to reveal the hidden things that are going on around us – who is really saying/doing what – and what we should do about it.

'Beloved, do not avenge yourselves...' Romans 12:19

This can be particularly difficult for us when we've really been hurt or wronged. It's normal to want to lash out and get even with the person(s). But that's not God's way – He has assured us of justice HIS way. When we try and avenge ourselves, we're putting ourselves in His position and saying we can do a better job.

'No weapon formed against you shall prosper...' Isaiah 54:17

The One who rules in the affairs of men knows how to ensure nothing outside of His plans for us will prosper. It doesn't mean weapons won't be formed, but it does mean that if we are obedient to Him, they will not prosper.

'You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies...' Psalms 23:5

'For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood...' Ephesians 6:12

Whatever we can see with our natural eyes is not the enemy, it's just the result of strings that are being pulled behind the scenes. God alone can show us where we need to take authority and deal with the spirit(s) behind the situation and showcase His power in our lives by using what was meant to harm us to rather be a blessing which will be delivered to us right before our enemies.

Prayer: Lord I see the power of obedience as a tool for victory, help me be diligent in obedience to You.

Day 2 Repentance before Engagement

'Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.' James 4:7

Many times we try to resist the devil before taking the critical first step of submitting to God's authority. Submission to God means not only acknowledging His authority but also walking according to His precepts. A critical part of submission is repentance which brings us back to God when we have gone out of alignment.

True repentance isn't just feeling remorseful it involves making a complete change of direction away from what we're repenting from and turning toward God and coming under His authority. When we do so, we are supernaturally enabled to stay away from those things that were holding us hostage before. So repentance doesn't only make the devil flee once, it enables us to go through the process of daily transformation, which strengthens us to keep saying no and ensure the devil keeps fleeing.

'...For the accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down to earth— the one who accuses them before our God day and night.' Revelation 12:10

While we may be praying and binding, the enemy won't move an inch if we still remain unrepentant. The power in repentance is that it cancels out many of the enemy's pressure points in our lives, limiting what can be used to control us. Living an unrepentant life leaves us constantly vulnerable to the accusations of the kingdom of darkness. Once we have truly repented and submitted to God's authority then we bring ourselves under His cover and He begins to demonstrate His unlimited power on our behalf.

'Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.' Psalms 139:23-24

What happens if there are things we need to repent of and aren't even aware? This is where we need the help of the Holy Spirit to search us and show us where we may have gone out of alignment. Part of our daily prayers should be that the Holy Spirit constantly searches our heart so we don't give room for unrepentance in our lives.

Prayer: Lord I submit to You and I ask that for the grace to truly repent so I don't give the devil a foothold in my life.

Day 3 Divine Advantage

'What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ' Romans 8:31

God is on our side, so we have a divine advantage. The enemy also knows God is on our side, so as a master of deception, what often happens is that he manipulates circumstances to the extent that we get overwhelmed and lose sight of our divine advantage. He constantly accuses us, relentlessly reminds us of all the things we may have done wrong in the past so that we start feeling condemned. Because he knows that if we allow that condemnation to stand, then the next stage is we start doubting that God could really be on our side.

'for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God' Romans 3:23

'In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace' Ephesians 1:7

'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.' 2 Corinthians 5:17

Thank God that in His infinite love for us He gave us Jesus who paid the price to redeem us by His blood. The price Jesus paid for us nullifies any accusations of our past the enemy may bring against us so we have no reason to feel condemned. Rather we begin to see ourselves in the light of our rightful position as heirs of the Father.

'...O Lord, God of our ancestors, you alone are the God who is in heaven. You are ruler of all the kingdoms of the earth. You are powerful and mighty; no one can stand against you! ' 2 Chronicles 20:6

Our heavenly Father can never lose and the enemy knows this, which is why his ultimate goal is to distort our understanding of who we are and who God is so we don't draw strength from Him. Once we start declaring to ourselves who our God is and who we are, the battle lines tilt in our favour.

Prayer: Lord thank You for making me a new creature in Christ so I never need to be condemned by my past actions. Thank You for the understanding that You are for me and because it is impossible for You to lose, I can face any situation with boldness.

Day 4 The Power of Praise

'At the very moment they began to sing and give praise, the Lord caused the armies of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir to start fighting among themselves' 2 Chronicles 20:22

Many times in the Bible we see the praise leaders go ahead in a battle which seems like a strange battle strategy, but this just remind us that God doesn't function based on our ways. Praise is a powerful weapon when it comes from the heart. As we genuinely praise God, things start shifting in our favour. In the illustration above, the Israelites didn't even have to lift a finger as the enemies started fighting among themselves.

'Let the praises of God be in their mouths, and a sharp sword in their hands—' Psalms 149:6

'Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. Our ancestors trusted in you, and you rescued them. They cried out to you and were saved. They trusted in you and were never disgraced.' Psalms 22:3-5

The connection between praise and victory is one of the many mysteries of God, but in His mercy He has revealed this winning strategy. God is always present, but there is something about heartfelt praise that brings a supernatural dimension to a situation. There may be times where we don't even need to get involved beyond praises as God takes over the battle Himself. But the caveat is that praise should come from the heart and not just lip service. 'Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.' Hebrews 13:15

One of the ways to keep the enemy fleeing is to continually praise God. We don't have to wait until there is a challenge or something big happens, we should always praise Him 'just because'. What's the challenge you're facing today? Take some time to praise God for who He is, what He's done in the past and to thank Him for the victory you're trusting Him to give you. Even if there's no challenge, praise Him anyway. He deserves it!

Prayer: Lord thank You for who You are and for the gift of praising You, knowing that as I do so You work out so many things within and around me. I ask for grace so Your praise will continually be on my lips.

Day 5

The Power of the Spoken Word

'For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword...' Hebrews 4:12

We can't underestimate the power of words in winning battles, specifically speaking the word of God. God's word is spirit and life and a double-edged sword when we speak it with understanding. It pierces through the spiritual realm in a manner we may not be able to fully comprehend. This is why when we want the enemy to flee we have to speak God's word. 'But He answered and said, "It is written... Jesus said to him, "It is written again... Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written... Then the devil left Him...' Matthew 4:4,7,10-11

Jesus shows us a critical tactic for winning as each time the devil tempted Him, He countered with the word of God. There are three critical things we can learn from this interaction. First is that Jesus knew the specific scripture needed to counter what the devil was putting before him, which means He had taken the time to study the scriptures beforehand. One of the many reasons we need to study the Bible ourselves is that we may not know the specific situation we will be faced with, so we need to have a rich scripture bank to draw from.

Second is that Jesus didn't think His response He spoke it. There's something about releasing the word of God from our lips that generates results for us. Third is that the devil didn't leave Jesus immediately. This shows us that while there may be times one word will deliver the full results, there are also times persistence is required. We speak the word over and over until the enemy flees.

'Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.' Mark 4:39

We have the authority to speak God's word to lives, situations and/or environments and cause them to change regardless of the current behaviour patterns. Jesus has won the victory for us, but we have to speak and keep speaking to enforce it.

Prayer: Lord give me a hunger for spending time in Your word, so my scripture treasury is always full. Teach me how to speak Your word to situations so they align with Your divine agenda.

'The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing. And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life.' John 6:63



Day 6 More Than Conquerors

'Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.' Romans 8:37

The life of a believer is one of constant battle, but we war from the position of the victory Christ obtained for us when He died and was resurrected. One of the things the enemy does best is pretending he's not already defeated. And if he encounters a believer who doesn't know this, he will always have the upper hand.

'Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.' Colossians 2:15

'Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.' Luke 10:19

When Jesus engaged the kingdom of darkness, He won!! Child of God this means we have also won and just need to enforce the victory we already have. And not only that, but Jesus also gave us authority over ALL the power of the enemy. So we have won, are winning and will continue to win because of the price Jesus paid. Can we make mistakes along the line? Absolutely. This is why prompt repentance is so key to our constant victory and causing the enemy to flee. Will there be times when we're tired of the persistent barrage from the enemy? Yes. This is why we need the word of God first of all for ourselves to strengthen us as well as disarm the enemy. This is also why we need the right people around us to encourage us in the ways of God.

'Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.' Ephesians 6:10

Our strength is not in ourselves, but in the Lord. When we keep our hearts fixed on Him and constantly involve Him in every situation, He takes on battles for us – some we may not even be aware of. On our own we don't have the capacity to keep the enemy at bay, but with God, we remain more than overcomers.

Prayer: Lord I recognize the victory You have given me and the ploy of the enemy to make me think otherwise. Help me to live daily with the consciousness of this victory.

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